

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY INT:USGS: H.L. FLEMING

APPROVED BY AF/W: DALTON V. KILLION

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 103835

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN MR US

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY SCIENTIST
MAURICE GROLIER

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY CURRENTLY COMPLETING UNDER AUSPICES OF NASA, A WORLD WIDE SURVEY OF WIND EROSION FORMS (YARDANGS). THE FORMS PRESENT IN NORTH AFRICA ARE GENERALLY POORLY DESCRIBED IN WIDELY SCATTERED AND INCOMPLETE LITERATURE. LARGE, PREVIOUSLY UNDESCRIBED YARDANGS OCCUR IN MAURITANIA AS DETERMINED FROM STUDY OF LANDSAT IMAGERY. A RECONNAISSANCE OF THESE FEATURES WOULD HELP THE USGS TO COMPLETE THE STUDY ON YARDANGS IN THE SAHARA. MR. GROLIER WOULD LIKE TO CHARTER A PLANE FOR A RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHT FROM FORT GOURAND SOUTH ALONG THE 13 DEGREE MERIDIAN TO ATAR AND FROM ATAR SOUTHEASTWARD TO TIDJIKYA.

MR. GROLIER IS PRESENTLY IN PARIS AND PROPOSES TO TRAVEL TO NOUAKCHOTT TO AWAIT GOM CLEARANCE UNLESS EMBASSY ANTICIPATES SUCH CLEARANCE WILL TAKE TOO LONG TO WARRANT HIS TRAVEL AT THIS TIME. ESTIMATED TIME TO MAKE PROPOSED RECONNAISSANCE ABOUT TWO WEEKS. USGS WOULD APPRECIATE
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EMBASSY CABLING RECOMMENDATIONS TO USGS/W WITH INFORMATION

TO SCICOUNS, PARIS. IF MR. GROLIER CAN UNDERTAKE RECON-
NAISSANCE USGS WOULD APPRECIATE ASSISTANCE IN CHARTERING

NECESSARY AIRCRAFT CHARGING DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY APPROPRIATION 1460804, ALLOTMENT 6-9580-
00730, TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION 9390-0616-76, DATED
APRIL 15, 1976. SISCO

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